

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Francoise Vinet et al.
Title: SOLID SUPPORT FOR IMMOBILIZING
OLIGONUCLEOTIDES
Docket No.: 34176

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to the examination of the above-identified patent application, it is requested that the following amendments be made.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claims 6 and 7 to read as follows:

1 6. (amended) Solid support according to claim 1,
2 characterized in that said material is a mixture
3 containing SiO₂.

1 7. (amended) Biochip characterized in that it
2 comprises a solid support [(1)] for immobilizing
3 oligonucleotides according to claim 1.

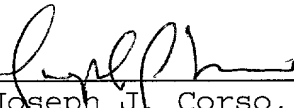
REMARKS

The foregoing amendments correct multiple claim dependency for purposes of calculating the claim fee.

Attached hereto is a page entitled "Version With Markings to Show Changes Made".

If there are any fees required by this amendment not covered by an enclosed check, or if no check is enclosed, please charge the same to Deposit Account No. 16-0820, Order No. 34176.

Respectfully submitted,

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November 29, 2001

"VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE"

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IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claims 6 and 7 in the following manner.

1 6. (amended) Solid support according to [any of
2 claims 1 to 5] claim 1, characterized in that said
3 material is a mixture containing SiO₂.

1 7. (amended) Biochip characterized in that it
2 comprises a solid support [(1)] for immobilizing
3 oligonucleotides according to [any of claims 1 to 6]
4 claim 1.